CLAIMS

1. A method for the automatic generation of a textual expression from a semantic representation, comprising the computer-executed steps of:

building a statistical model from a plurality of pre-determined pairs of semantic representations and associated expressions; and

producing a first associated expression from a first semantic representation using the statistical model.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the building step further comprises:

converting the pairs of semantic representations and associated expressions from an external format into an internal format.

3. The method of claim 2, wherein the converting step further uses a negative list and a translation table.

4. The method of claim 3, wherein the negative list describes information in the external format that is irrelevant to the statistical model.

5. The method of claim 3, wherein the negative list describes information in the external format that is damaging to the statistical model.

6. The method of claim 3, wherein the converting step further comprises:
determining which information in the external format is present in the negative list and which information in the external format is absent in the negative list;
converting information that is absent in the negative list from the external format to the internal format using the translation table; and
refraining from converting information that is present in the negative list.

7.   The method of claim 2, wherein the building step further comprises:

determining a plurality of questions;

classifying the information in the internal format using the plurality of questions; and

calculating the statistical model from the internal format using the plurality of

questions.

8.   The method of claim 7, wherein the determining step further comprises:

determining the plurality of questions from pre-determined boundary conditions.

9.   The method of claim 1, further comprising:

storing the statistical model as a decision-tree model.